

THE
KAPPA
ALPHA

THETA

MAGAZINE
WINTER 1996-97



The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine

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Mission statement: *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine* will serve as an enduring link between the International Fraternity and its members. *The Magazine* will educate, update, and entertain readers about the Fraternity and its college chapters and alumnae groups.

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Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity, founded at Indiana Asbury College (DePauw University), Greencastle, Indiana, on January 27, 1870, is the first Greek-letter fraternity known among women.

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THE KAPPA ALPHA THETA MAGAZINE

Winter 1996-97 Volume 111 Number 2

Departments

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 3 Snapshots | 24 Connections |
| 7 Over the Desktop | 25 Directory |
| 8 Letters | 26 Foundation |
| 9 Honorary & Memorial Gifts | 28 In Memoriam |

Features

- 10 Substance-Free Housing: Saving the Greek System**
The substance-free-housing movement is embraced by many Greek groups and college campuses.
- 12 Fired Up About Theta!**
College chapters have unique programs to keep members enthusiastic and motivated.
- 18 Taking Risks the Write Way**
Kate Lehrer, ΓΨ/Texas Christian, writes novels that challenge herself and her readers.
- 21 Talented Thetas**
The first installment of this feature introduces the work of poet Sandra Shapard, Δ/Illinois.
- 22 It's Payback Time!**
Don't panic—there are ways to manage those student loans.
- 29 Theta Reunions**
From the Atlantic to the Pacific, Thetas gather to celebrate class anniversaries.
- 30 Miss America Pageant Fulfills Their Dreams**
Three Thetas reach different goals on the runway at Atlantic City.

<http://www.thetahq.org>

Come visit KAΘ!

Our web site is new, updated, and loaded with information.

If you haven't seen it lately, you haven't seen it!

On the Cover

Behind doors such as this one at the Beta Pi Chapter at Michigan State, students need a positive living and learning atmosphere. The National Panhellenic Conference works to promote substance-free campus housing.



**More Than Just
Beauty Queens**
page 30



SNAPSHOTS

Composites

Chapter & Club News



Thetas from all over the western US gathered for a photo at the 1996 **Western Regional Greek Conference** in San Francisco, Calif.



Phil Douglas, Executive Director of Iowa CASA, presented a plaque to **Heather Broermann, Melissa Schnoebelen, and Kristin Mensing** acknowledging **Beta Omicron's** contributions to the state of Iowa's CASA programs.



In January 1996, these seven Thetas from the **Epsilon Omega** Chapter at Washington & Jefferson took Italy by storm as part of the college's art curriculum. **Megan Cook, Martina Schuering, Lexy Matason, Amy Renzi, Kelly Walters, Mical Pallack, and April Zambelli** are pictured in front of the Trevi Fountain in Rome.



These 15 Thetas participated in the 1996 National Race for the Cure, held in Washington, DC. Proceeds from this race help fund breast cancer research efforts.



Despite the damp weather, members of the **Dayton, Ohio, Alumnae Chapter** delivered flowers during their annual CASA fund-raiser.



The Γ^{Δ} Thetas of **Ohio Wesleyan University** gathered for a quick photo before a sisterhood event at Mohican Canoe Livery.



SNAPSHOTS



These seven members of the **Beta Zeta Chapter at Oklahoma State University** were selected for membership in Mortar Board National Honor Society. Mortar Board selection is based on faculty nomination and recommendation, academic achievement, campus leadership, and community service.



Members of the **Baltimore Alumnae Chapter** gathered for a holiday luncheon and organizational meeting to discuss plans for their annual CASA fund-raiser.

Ventura County Alumnae Club recently celebrated another successful poinsettia fund-raising sale at their annual holiday luncheon.

The **San Jose/South Bay Alumnae Chapter** recently awarded **Ashley Binter**, I/Cornell and **Tiffany Leger**, ZO/Cal-Poly, the 1996 undergraduate scholarships in the amount of \$500 each.



First Lady of Texas **Laura W. Bush** (back row, center), BΣ/Southern Methodist University, paid a visit to the first-grade classroom of **Sarah Hogberg Forster** (back row, right), Π/Albion College, and announced the Governor's Reading Initiative program, which focuses on increasing the literacy rate in the state of Texas.



Members and alumnae of the **Zeta Eta Chapter** at Wofford College gathered to celebrate Founders Day with the recently formed Upstate Alumnae Club of South Carolina.



Sarah Scharber ΔZ/Emory; **Lori LaBeau**, ΓY/Miami; **Kay Loop Locher**, AX/Purdue; **Chris Cameron Ellis**, ΓΩ/Auburn; **Michelle Balsom Strohmeier**, K/Kansas; **Michelle Johnson**, ΓY/Miami; **Nancy Bush Millhouse**, ΓY/Miami; and **Steph Smith**, ΓY/Miami, posed with a wall-hanging made by a **Gamma Upsilon** class.



SNAPSHOTS



Janice Birdsall Boswell, O/USC, of Los Angeles Alumnae Chapter, is pictured with 1996 scholarship recipient, **Alex Proctor, BE/UCLA**.



Tiffany Crawford, EZ/Mississippi, and **Laura Anne Coker, AH/Vanderbilt**, visit on the front steps of the **Epsilon Zeta** Chapter house during homecoming.



Members of the **Omega Chapter at UC Berkeley** kicked off the fall semester with a pre-rush retreat in Napa Valley.



Members of **Zeta Upsilon Chapter at UT Dallas** gathered for a quick picture before their first rush began.

Members of the **Houston NW Alumnae Chapter** attended a luncheon honoring new Grand Council member **Peggy Jo Cook Coker, BE/Oregon State**, vice-president membership (front row, fourth from left).



Let others know about

- yourself
- fellow Thetas
- Chapter and Club news

Submit info and photos to
The Magazine,
attn: Editor

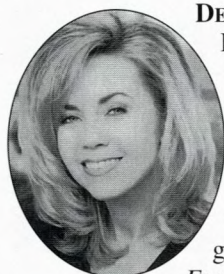


SNAPSHOTS

Portraits

Individual Achievements

MICHELLE BOLTON, BO/IOWA, in her capacity as public relations & publications manager of the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art & Design, was recently chosen by *Kansas City Magazine* as one of 29 Kansas Citians under 30 who are making a difference and mapping the future of their community.



DEBBIE MCGEE, EE/BAYLOR, has been named to co-host *Wheel of Fortune Live!* which is a variety game show based on the popular TV game show *Wheel of Fortune*.

IRENE SWANSON ERICKSON, ΓN/NORTH DAKOTA STATE, has been named American Business Women's Association Chapter Woman of the Year (1996). With this honor, Erickson is also nominated for the national-level Top Ten award. Erickson currently serves as president of the Rochester Charter Chapter of Rochester, Minn.

JAN McDONALD ROSS, BM/NEVADA, was selected as one of Scottsdale's Women of Achievement for 1995. Ross is in her twentieth year of selling everything from condominiums to castles in the Scottsdale and Paradise Valley areas. As past chairman of the Luxury Home Tour, she consistently ranks in the top 100 agents of Realty Executives internationally.

COLLEEN NISL, ΓΔ/OHIO WESLEYAN, has been promoted to vice-president and assistant general counsel of Borden, Inc. Nisl joined Borden's law department in 1984 as a senior attorney and was promoted to litigation counsel in 1989 and antitrust counsel in 1992.

PEPPER (BETTY WILLERT) COIL, AI/WASHINGTON-ST. LOUIS, professor emerita of Maryville University in St. Louis, was honored for her significant contribution in the field of education and library science with the dedication

of the Pepper Coil Curriculum Collection in the Maryville University Library. She served as director of Instructional Resources at the library from 1973 to 1983.



SUE CAROSKI TEMPERO, P/NEBRASKA, vice-president of human resources at *The Des Moines Register* in Des Moines, Iowa, recently received the 1996 YWCA of Greater

Des Moines Women of Achievement Award. This annual award recognizes women who have changed the face of the greater Des Moines area and community through their volunteer contributions to humanity with emphasis on the empowerment of women, children, and people of color.



CARLEIGH BARNES, AA/UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, has been named executive director of the Canton Chamber of Commerce. In her previous position as community affairs man-

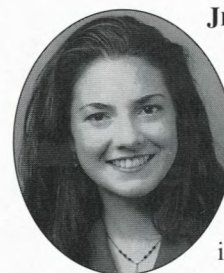
ager with the Southwest King County Chamber of Commerce, Barnes focused on community and government relations, economic development efforts, marketing, and tourism development.

PAT LOOSE FRANKENBERRY, BΓ/COLORADO STATE, is a planning/grants specialist for the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Transit Unit. The unit received the 1996 Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) State Achievement Award, which is given to the top state transit unit in the nation.

HELEN G. RAFFENSPERGER, AX/PURDUE, of Henry, Ill., recently finished writing a book on the history of the Marshall-Putnam Fair, *Come to Our Fair*, for the 75th anniversary fair committee. This 92-year-old Theta is "... too busy to feel her age," and she writes a weekly column, "Paths in the Prairie Grass," in the local newspaper.

MARY KAY MURPHY SELF, MA, BO/IOWA, has published a new book entitled, *You Are Always In Our Hearts, A Book for Divorced Parents*. Self is a therapist, journalist, and family mediator certified by the Supreme Court of Florida. Self conducts programs throughout the country and has recently presented her program to the Sarasota Theta Alumnae Club.

REV. VALERIE WHITE STULTZ, ΓΔ/OHIO WESLEYAN, has been appointed Mount Vernon, Ohio, District Superintendent. Past vocations for Rev. Stultz have included elementary teacher, tutor of children with learning disabilities, trainer of volunteers for a crisis information and referral center, and an alcohol counselor for Delaware County, Ohio.



JESSICA FIEDLER, B/INDIANA, has been promoted to account executive at Nathan Associates, Inc. In her new role, Fiedler provides ideation, media research and media relations while also generating both promotional and press materials for health and human service, retail and the arts.

Past Santa Barbara Alumnae Chapter president **JESSIE GORHAM TOLL, Ω/UC BERKELEY**, recently volunteered at the annual Santa Barbara Zoo fundraiser. Toll, now 86, has been a dedicated volunteer for 22 years at the annual Zoo-B-Que and stays very active in the Santa Barbara Alumnae Chapter.



Fraternity Executive Director **MARCIA HOWLAND BOND, ΓΔ/GEORGIA**, recently earned the Certified Association Executive (CAE) designation from the

American Society of Association Executives. Among association professionals, "CAE" is an indication of demonstrated skill in leadership, activity in community affairs, and expertise in association management. ■



"Coming Clean" About an Obsession

I have a confession to make about myself. I'm a word nerd. This is something that I used to be embarrassed about and try to hide. Now that I'm looking at the far side of thirty-something, however, I'm becoming harder and harder to embarrass. (So there's at least one advantage to growing older!) I've decided that word nerdiness is simply a part of me and that I should stop worrying about it.

In case you aren't personally acquainted with any word nerds, let me familiarize you with some of our defining characteristics. Keep in mind, though, that not every nerd is alike. Some of us exhibit all of these traits, while some of us have only one or two.

♦We like to read dictionaries. A lot of you, I'm sure, are dozing off at the mere thought of this. But dictionaries can be fascinating! I actually own three of them, and they're all different. When you look through a dictionary, you can discover words like *defenestration*, which is what you'd be doing if you threw something out a window; *susurrant*, which is a whispering or rustling; and *rime*, which means frost.

I have always secretly longed for my own copy of the *Oxford English Dictionary* (the unabridged version, of course), even though it's so huge that I would have nowhere to put it.

♦We also like to read encyclopedias and thesauri. Some of us even read (and I *am* still a little embarrassed about this one) grammar books. Before you write that off as totally weird, consider this: If you are reading a grammar book on a bus or airplane, you are guaranteed privacy. Absolutely no one is going to try

to strike up a conversation with a person whose nose is buried in a copy of *Grammar and Gender*.

♦We are prolific writers. We scribble letters, e-mail, notes, postcards, memos, and Post-its. Some of us are lucky enough to have our articles and even our books published. Sometimes all this writing is enjoyable, and sometimes it's downright painful. But we are compelled to keep it up.

♦We love books. Nonfiction, fiction, coffee-table books, slender volumes of poetry, books with pictures, books with tiny type, adult books, kids' books.... Well, you get the idea.

♦We like to talk about the craft of writing. In fact, we've even been known to talk about writing at the expense of doing any actual writing. (Some might call this procrastination. Word nerds prefer to think of it as a version of networking.)

Now that I've quantified these characteristics, they don't seem quite so nerdy after all. An interest in words is simply a mild obsession, no more peculiar than a fondness for Dixieland jazz or an affinity for gardening. Having admitted my obsession, though, I'll probably continue to refer to myself as a word nerd. I just like the way the words sound.

This issue of *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine* contains two features that will be of particular interest to Thetas who like to read and/or write. Our profile is of novelist Kate Lehrer, Gamma Psi/Texas Christian. She talks about her life, her three published books, and the writer's art. And in a new feature—"Talented Thetas"—we showcase some poems by Sandy Shapard, Delta/Illinois,

another published author.

Also in this issue, we explore an issue of great importance to the entire Greek community: substance-free housing. Many people believe that the very survival of the Greek system hinges on this issue.

The survival of a person's financial stability often hinges on her ability to pay back her student loans. In "It's Payback Time," we offer some expert advice on managing student loans.

Those of us who haven't been on a college campus in a while will find a lot to be inspired by in "Fired Up About Theta." Collegians tell how they motivate themselves and other chapter members to stay enthusiastic about the Fraternity.

There's a wide variety of articles in this winter issue, and that mirrors the variety of the season. A lot of people think that winter is homogeneous, but it's actually a season of contrasts. The cozy feeling of sitting by a warm fire on a cold day contrasts with the exhilaration of taking a walk through the snow. The beauty of bare tree branches contrasts with the drabness of a gray sky.

Yes, winter in the midwest is a diverse season, all right. But while I'm still in a mood to make confessions, I'll admit that I would much prefer to be experiencing the contrasts of a sunny tropical beach.

Loyally,

Liz Appel Rinck

Liz Appel Rinck, Gamma/Butler Editor

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CORRECTIONS

♦In the Snapshots section of the summer issue, Rachel Sumner Poole, X/Syracuse, and Dorothy Cort Leonhart, AΔ/Goucher, were not identified in the caption of a photo of the Charlottesville Alumnae Club's celebration of Founders Day.

♦Marilyn Nicholls, Φ/Pacific, was incorrectly identified as Marilyn Nichols, P/Nebraska, in the Snapshots section of the autumn issue.



Correcting History

The purpose of my letter is twofold. First, I want to thank you for including an article from my Theta sister Mary McClure, entitled "I Am a Founder," in the Summer 1996 issue of *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine*. As an alumna of the new-defunct Delta Xi chapter of the University of North Carolina, I have found it to be a rare treat to read anything in print from or about us.

Unfortunately, I must address a second matter. In the very same magazine, one of your responses to a letter to the editor is not only disappointing but also inaccurate. The writer inquired about the reason our chapter had closed. You answered, "... the chapter was unable to function and the members voted to relinquish their charter in 1991." You can be assured that we did not vote for anything of the sort in 1991.

Please allow me to restate the facts of our chapter's closure. We were well aware of our membership declining and worked very hard to have more successful rushes over a three-year period. In the fall of 1991, we had only five bids to give out and 50 seniors out of an 80-member chapter were graduating in May 1992. We had to do something. We, and I do write on behalf of my sisterhood, would have had no problem relinquishing our charter at the end of the school year. However, the Grand Council members made that decision for us.

On October 1, 1991, they came to our house and politely gave us the official word that our chapter would be closed in eleven days, or the beginning of our fall break. Forty of us had to find a new place to live in the middle of midterms. I could go on and on with the rest of the details, but the bottom line is that many of us still have a bad taste in our mouths about Theta. We would appreciate an accurate retelling of the facts. That way, the national organization has a much better chance of seeing even more participation in alumnae chapters by Delta Xi members.

ELAINE EMMONS
DELTA XI/NORTH CAROLINA

Kelley Hurst, Director of Chapter Services, replies, "You are correct, Elaine. In checking through our archives, we discovered that Delta Xi Chapter members did not, in fact, vote to relinquish the charter. Thank you for reminding us of this so we could make this correction."

Special Guests

Several days after Grand Convention this summer, my husband and I returned to the Biltmore for a tour. I talked to one of the hostesses on duty and mentioned having been there on Friday. She was so very complimentary about the behavior of our group. She said that the guards and hosts must work overtime for such special tours—and most often it is very trying. Not with our bunch, however! We were good guests.

They also got the word about Catherine McCord walking through. What thrilled them was her ability to do so. She is the same age as the house, or nearly so, and they were as much in awe of her as we are.

ILENE SEALE LYMAN
ALPHA PHI/NEWCOMB-TULANE

Foreign Relations

Please note that I would like to receive only the spring issue of *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine*. As you can see from my address, I am currently living in France. Aren't you glad to be saving a little foreign postage money? I feel that as a former recipient of a Theta award to continue my studies in France, this is the very least I can do!

SHIRLEY HANSON BENOIT
ALPHA PSI/LAWRENCE

Net Notes

I just want to say welcome to cyberspace, and good job! I've been waiting for Theta to get on the 'net and am pleased that we're here.

I will do some more exploring from home tonight (not much "surfing" time at work). Please let me know if there is any assistance I can provide, either through my connections here at Apple Computer, or as an interested and still active alumna.

Kudos to the team!

JANE SHEPHERD DICK
EPSILON MU/PRINCETON
VIA E-MAIL

Hi! I don't mean to be cluttering your e-mailbox with relatively unimportant mail, but I just found the Theta HQ web page tonight and was pleasantly surprised. I didn't know we had one! I can tell that it's new and is still under construction, but I just wanted to wish you luck and tell you it's looking pretty cool already.

I'm the web master for my chapter's page, and I invite you to come by for a visit. Plus, I have a pretty current list of other chapters online, so that might be useful, too. Zeta Mu's page:
<http://web.mit.edu/theta/www/kao.html>.

JULIE HERMAN
ZETA MU/MIT
VIA E-MAIL

A Back Pat

I enjoy receiving all issues of *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine*. We've lived in many areas of the country, and it is fun to look for names and groups with whom I am familiar. I am active in my own district and am always interested in what Thetas are doing elsewhere. Personal articles and pictures about both alumnae and collegians is one way we remain connected in this technological age.

All the 1995 reports helped to explain what is currently happening with the Fraternity. The financial data, about which—as an ADP—I am frequently asked, was especially helpful. The Rush Directory was timely and also helpful.

I believe you are doing an excellent job of fulfilling your mission statement to educate, update, and entertain our members. Thank you and your staff for your efforts.

JANE WEAVER STOUT
BETA ZETA/OKLAHOMA STATE

MOVING? NEW PHONE? NAME CHANGE?

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e-mail gretchen@thetahq.org



FOUNDATION

Honorary and Memorial Gifts, July 1–September 30, 1996

In Honor of:

Council Members

by Marilyn Chesher Lynch

Directors and Staff at Grand Convention

by Marilyn Chesher Lynch

Eta Chapter

by Patricia Skinner Turner

Gamma Phi Chapter

by Elizabeth Cavin Thomasson

KAO Headquarters Staff

by E. Paige Thompson

Omicron Chapter

by Elizabeth Friedel

Theta's work with CASA

by Laurie Anne Griffith Leszynski

Margie Miller Baum, BE

by Nancy Milligan Frick

Catharine Stout Bayse, I

by Nancy Milligan Frick

Patricia Hamar Boldt, A^Y

by Ulrika Dahl

Dana S. Brown, Φ^{Δ}

by F.R. & Pamela Brown

Irene Steuber Cariffe, AI

by Irene Cariffe Travis

Mary Lynn McCarthy Carroll, I^M

by Rosellen McCarthy

Helen Boner Chaffee, BM

by Northern VA/Washington D.C. Alumnae Chapters

Ann Hirsch Corbey, BA

by Northern VA/Washington D.C. Alumnae Chapters

Sarah C. Davis, AO

by Catherine Mullins Davis

Betty Smith Dobson, AH

by Jean Smith Mathews

Whitney Charlton Duggan, B Σ

by Mary Hrdlicka Charlton

Nancy Milligan Frick, A

by Elizabeth Bain Casselman

Nancy Pitts Gibson, BZ

by Mary Lee Hert Draper

Jean and Joe Glad's marriage

by Sandra Hosselkus

Maureen Theresa Guerrero, Φ

by Nancy Smith Grubb

Marriage of Michelle Hamilton, M

by Christine O'Neil

Judy Harrison's Birthday, BZ

by Joyce Harrison Honeyman

and Ronald Honeyman

Virginia Warren Hahn, I^K

by Northern VA/Washington D.C. Alumnae Chapters

Martha Taylor Jones, AO

by Carol Straley Trimmer

Nancy Koberstein Klobasa, BK

by Carol Straley Trimmer

Jennifer L. Lucas, AY

by Susan King Jolley

Marilyn Chesher Lynch, I^{\Phi}

by Joan Chesher Johnson

Marilyn Chesher Lynch's, I^{\Phi}, Birthday,

by Florence Helen Ashby

and Ronald Honeyman

by Nancy Milligan Frick

George Shannon Maddox, A Σ

by Floy Oliver Daugherty

Gerald May

by Teresa A. May

Catherine Tillotson McCord, A

by Elizabeth Webster Heskett

Carol Stenberg McPadden, A

by Floy Oliver Daugherty

by Kelley Galbreath Hurst

Elaine McVay

by Gloria McVay Cochran

Claudia Moore

by Teresa A. May

Lois Birrell Morrill, I

by Northern VA/Washington D.C. Alumnae Chapters

Mrs. Ferne Nowlin

by Kimberly Kelly Russell

Mary Ellen Gates Osborne, B

by Elizabeth Bain Casselman

Phebe Duerr Raab, BT

by Northern VA/Washington D.C. Alumnae Chapters

Gwenellen Scupholm, BTI

by Northern VA/Washington D.C. Alumnae Chapters

Lyn Stewart Simensen, IT

by Carol Straley Trimmer

Louise Wetstein Simpson, BT

by Carol Straley Trimmer

Bernice Bright Slater, BE

by Nancy Paulson McAdoo

Lisa Sombart Street, AM

by Northern VA Alumnae Chapter

Kathleen Bennett Tonkel, H

by Carol Straley Trimmer

Suzanne Jones Verardo, IO

by Carolyn Jones Minton

Janet Pierce Waller, BA

by Northern VA/Washington D.C. Alumnae Chapters

Helen Edwards Woodward, AO

by Kathleen Ardell Rittner

by Catherine Mullins Davis

by Sarah C. Davis

In Celebration of:

Deborah Bornmann Allen's

Birthday, $\Delta\Theta$

by Florence Helen Ashby

Susan Williams Banta, P

by Bonnie Craddick Kelley

Sandra Lutes Cannon's, E Σ , Ph.D.,

by Carolyn M. Warden

Eleanor, AO, and Fred Hunt's

Golden Anniversary,

by Florence Helen Ashby

Sandi Baxley Mullins', Z Λ , promotion,

by Michelle Crowell Coburn

Beth McGaffey Scarborough's,

BA, wedding,

by Joanna Lee Ashworth

Patti Skinner's Birthday, BN

by Tiffany Perrone

Elizabeth Cavin Thomasson, I^{\Phi}

by Bonnie Craddick Kelley

In Memory of:

Martha Scotzin's mother

by Kathleen Ardell Rittner

Alice Woods Ash, B

by Dayton Alumnae Chapter

by Patricia Boynton Frey

Patsy Nolte Askew, AO

by Mary Ann Bivens Couch

Ruth Cunningham Bauer, AT

by Jean Bauer Bogart

Merry S. Bean, I^{\Phi}

by Ruth Means Langstaff

Betty Cameron Bennett, B Σ

by Albuquerque Alumnae Chpt.

Beverly Simons Bennett, I^Y

by Bettie Lu Ogan Washburn

Elisabeth Edson Bowers, AY

by Jeanne Woodcox Taggart

by Ann Colvin Rolley

Philip Brigriv

by Joyce Harrison Honeyman

and Ronald Honeyman

Harriet Fowler Brown, T

by Greater Kansas City Alumnae Chapter

Martha Evans Brown, BZ

by Stillwater Alumnae Club

Sally Donelan Burnham, T

by Margaret King Sperka

by Virginia Fiske Boorum

by Joan Trenchard French

Callie Martin Chalk, BB

by Elizabeth Cavin Thomasson

Mrs. Dorothy Spratt Chestnut

by Rosemary Marcoux Longino

Virginia Christena Clark, BT

by Carolyn Metzger Peet

Lewis Collins

by Lori Waldrop

Florence Yancey Connally, BA

by Marshall Connally

Marcia Tudor Cooper, I

by Anna Sleeth Countryman

Mary Miller Corbett, AY

by Jeanne Woodcox Taggart

Doctor Henry C. Crane

by Joyce Harrison Honeyman

and Ronald Honeyman

Doral Baugh Cravens, B

by Sue Christena Claycombe

by Suzanne Barth Browning

by Elizabeth Blackwell Bartz

Jane Heitkamp Cudlipp, I

by Anne Burr Saliers

Barbara Paterson Daley, BN

by Norma Oliphant Bridges

Josephine Orr Danielson

by Martha Danielson Gerstenkorn

Bonette Holland De Smith, I Σ

by Barbara Curry Jamison

Dorothy Coleman DeRemer, I^X

by Lori Chavez De Remer

Annette Delahay, BZ

by Bartlesville Alumnae Club

Jane Owen Ellis, I

by Marjorie Retter Hefflin

and John Hefflin

Tom Emison

by Sue Olson DeGan

Lyle Bryson Ford, A Σ

by Mary Waddell Sheffer

Carl Gerlach

by Sheryl Winstandley Kelm

Robert F. Glass

by Jean Wells Whitcraft

Helen Pittcock Green, I^{\Phi}

by Ruth Means Langstaff

Annie Laurie Hamilton, BN

by Edythe Stanley Sorensen

Harriet Curry Hammond, B

by Bloomington Alumnae Chapter

Eleanor Muse Harris, B Σ

by Jean Shaw Legg

by Virginia Hindman Freeman

by Margaret Weddington

Skidmore

Ella Dobie Hathaway, A Σ

by Anita Anderson Dawson

Janet Woolcutt Heinrich, BE

by Carolyn Colby Timmins

by Wilma Walbridge Arbuckle

Margaret Heitman Heizer, BM

by Mary McCulloch Mack

Mary Montgomery Henderson, I

by Victor and Carolyn Mercer

Shirley Trapp Hepner, BTI

by Birmingham Alumnae Chapter

Gordon Hinners

by Susan Ball

Edna Murphy Hoffman, A Σ

by Salem Alumnae Club

Lillian House

by Joyce Harrison Honeyman

and Ronald Honeyman

Dorothy Daniels Hunter, M

by Clearwater Alumnae Club

Marjorie Kraum Johnson, AY

by Louise Cauthers Berryman

Elinor Gano Jones, AT

by Jody Jones Hunter

Janey Schmidt Lawrence, I^Y

by Barbara Schmidt Heinen

Kelly T. Lawrence, B Σ

by Marjorie Taylor

by MaeBelle Pendergast

by Lenore Davis

by Sue and Peter Raffetto

by Grant & Marcia Murchison

by Sandie & John McGrath

by John D. Webber, D.D.S.

by James & Janice Moe

by Heidi Fink Magnussen

Marie Foley Litfin

by Maria Litfin Eschen

Janet Longino

by Rosemary Marcoux Longino

Edith Lucas

by Nancy Koberstein Klobasa

by Suzanne Deborah Croft

by Susan Eads Role and Gerald

A. Role

by Rebecca Ann Reddick

by Helen Edwards Woodward

by Lissa Luton Bradford

Janet Turnbull MacDonald, AA

by Nancy Gupton Aitken

Alice Beal MacLaren, B Φ

by South Palm Beach Alumnae Club

Kathryn Anderson Mackaman, BK

by Doris Mackaman Corrie

John Madden, B

by Sue Olson DeGan

Margaret Allan Mahan, B Φ

by Elizabeth Long Chambers

Ruth Grimes Mark, AO

by Nina De Vinna Haning

SUBSTANCE-FREE HOUSING:

Val Christensen knew it was time for change if the fraternity system at Utah State University had any hope of surviving. Christensen, vice-president for student services at USU, saw a dying fraternity system that was a mere shell of what he had experienced as a college undergraduate member of Pi Kappa Alpha.

"I was looking for an idea we could use—anything we could do to save the system," Christensen says of the seemingly insurmountable problems he faced in the spring of 1995. "We had tried everything: carding at the door, requiring invitations. Nothing worked. Alcohol abuse was killing us."

The once-proud Greek system at USU had deteriorated to the brink of extinction. USU was experiencing incident after incident, and alcohol was involved in almost every case.

"We simply weren't getting the best students," Christensen says. "The best ones don't want to live in an unsafe place where they cannot study. They weren't joining fraternities."

Christensen wasn't the first to recognize the problem. Nor was Utah State the first campus to experience it. Leaders of the National Interfraternity Conference (NIC) had seen the same pattern repeated nationwide, and a major turnaround had caught their attention. The Sigma Chi chapter at the University of Maine had been facing closure; in desperation, alumni there imposed a substance-free living environment. It was a last-chance effort to save the chapter, and it worked. Three years later, the chapter is quite successful. A Sigma Chi now heads the Interfraternity Council at Maine.

In an effort to stem the deterioration of the Greek system nationwide, NIC offered a trial program based on some of the concepts used at Maine. The result was a substance-free living program, and NIC floated the idea in one of its publications in the spring of 1995.

"I'd looked for years for an idea we could use," says Utah State's Christensen. "When I saw that newsletter, I called NIC and asked if I could implement the program. They agreed, and we imposed it as our policy, word for word, for the fall of 1995. Needless to say, I wasn't a very popular guy around here."

At first, undergraduate men balked at the idea of ridding fraternity houses of alcohol. So did members of women's groups, who were accustomed to using the fraternity houses as convenient places to drink.

Today, many in the Utah State system have become converts.

"Things have gone really well," says David Dyer, president of USU's Delta Sigma Phi chapter. "Oh, sure, we had some things to struggle with, like alumni who didn't understand what we had done. And as far as activities go, you have to be creative."

"Still, on balance, it's been good. The problems we used to have with the surrounding community have disappeared, and we have a much better atmosphere in the house."

One year later, Christensen considers the program a resounding success. So does the NIC, which has partnered with the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) to create a Joint Task Force on Substance-Free Housing. Together, NIC and NPC intend to implement the pro-

gram on several test campuses for the 1996-97 academic year.

"Men's groups cannot solve this problem by themselves," says Jean Scott of Pi Beta Phi, who chairs NPC. "On campuses where there is a system-wide effort to pursue substance-free housing, members of women's fraternities should work with fraternity men to help them successfully reach this meaningful goal."

Christensen agrees. "We had only one bad incident last year in which a fraternity decided to violate our policy," he says. "They brought alcohol into the house. The women not only refused to participate, they turned them in." It hasn't happened again.

"Participation of the women's groups is essential," Christensen continues. "We have to change the drinking culture on campus, and without the women's participation, it won't happen."

Christensen readily admits that the situation at Utah State is far from perfect. Yet last year there wasn't a single arrest on Greek Row, and there were no police raids on fraternity houses. Negative incidents of all types dropped dramatically. In addition, retention rates (the percentage of pledges actually initiated) are up, and members of Greek organizations are more visible in community and campus affairs. Volunteerism has increased sharply.

"It's definitely possible to change the culture," says Christensen, "but it takes support from every alumni group as well as the undergraduates. We're recruiting higher-quality members who are more academically oriented. Those people didn't join before."

The byproducts of a substance-free

SAVING THE GREEK SYSTEM

atmosphere persuaded Brad Dove to join the reborn Alpha Tau Omega chapter at Purdue University. After closing its chapter two years ago, ATO reconstituted at Purdue last year and enlisted 36 new members. Dove was one of them.

"I had looked at other fraternities on campus," he says. "Some of the images I didn't care for. I thought that with a substance-free house, there would be more brotherhood. The chapter would be more committed to academics."

Fraternities have succeeded as part of the college scene for more than 200 years, largely due to members' ability to adapt to the changing needs of stu-

dents and society. Today, it is clear that campuses and communities will no longer tolerate underage drinking as acceptable behavior. Can fraternities adapt to this changing expectation?

"Sure, they can adapt," says Christensen. "But it takes a lot of work from every group, undergraduates and alumni, men and women. Everyone said it couldn't be done, but we've done it. I've been here a long time, and this is our best year ever."

by Brian Brooks, president-elect of the National Interfraternity Conference

BENEFITS OF SUBSTANCE-FREE HOUSING

A higher-quality fraternity experience

• • •

Improved safety and health of collegiate members

• • •

Greater attention to academic pursuits

• • •

Attractive, safe housing

• • •

Increased membership of dedicated men and women

• • •

A return to the beliefs upon which each fraternity was founded.

UTAH STATE ISN'T ALONE

Several campuses in addition to Utah State have implemented substance-free environments. The largest so far is the University of Colorado, where the Interfraternity Council decided to go substance-free in response to heavy criticism of the Greek community at what has been described as one of America's top party schools.

There, too, the program has been successful, despite some early stumbles. Boulder, Colo., police have been active participants in the program, and they now sing the praises of the revived Greek community.

Several national fraternities, including such large groups as Sigma Nu, have committed to becoming substance-free nationwide by 2000. Others have started requiring chapters to make the change following risk-management violations. Some are committing to substance-free housing as they rebuild or remodel. Still others have committed to cooperate with NIC and NPC and implement the program in all chapters located on target campuses.

WHERE TO GET HELP

The National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) and the National Interfraternity Conference (NIC) are committed to furthering the efforts of students and alumni who choose to pursue substance-free chapter housing. Members of the NIC-NPC Joint Task Force on

Substance-Free Housing believe that a partnership between fraternity, university, and community is the key to providing the best learning environment for fraternity members—an alcohol-free living area. NPC and NIC have a variety of educational resources available to assist with the

planning of effective chapter programming ideas. You may contact the task force by writing to cochairs Carlton Bennett, Theta Chi, and Lissa Bradford, Kappa Alpha Theta, at NIC-NPC Substance-Free Housing, 3901 West 86th St., Suite 390, Indianapolis, IN 46268.

How to Do It

STEP 1

Develop a coalition that includes the administration; national men's and women's fraternities with chapters on the campus; IFC and Panhellenic officers; chapter advisors and house corporation boards; local alumni and alumnae; and key community representatives, especially local government and law enforcement.

STEP 2

Presidents of men's and women's fraternity chapters and IFC and Panhellenic officers spend a weekend on retreat talking through their reactions to the substance-free decision, accepting the decision and making plans to move forward with it.

STEP 3

Host a convocation for all undergraduate fraternity men and women. All coalition members will be represented and will present the substance-free guidelines, with special emphasis on the benefits to members, chapters, and the Greek system as a whole.

STEP 4

Following the general convocation, national officers and staff will meet with their own collegiate and alumni members to discuss implementation of the plan.

STEP 5

Each national organization will send a mailing to all living alumni of the chapter to explain the substance-free guidelines.

STEP 6

A panel of representatives from the coalition will serve as an oversight board and resource team to ensure compliance, provide encouragement, and reward success.

STEP 7

The campus and local media will be invited to general meetings and will be kept informed about the progress of the initiative.

Fired Up About Theta!

College Chapters Show That They Are

*What makes your chapter special?
How do your members see themselves and their chapter?
How do you stay "fired up" about Kappa Alpha Theta?*

We asked college chapter editors these questions, and 23 editors responded. The letters and photos they sent show that each Theta chapter exhibits unique qualities and that Thetas across the US and Canada are, indeed, fired up about the Fraternity.

K/Kansas

What sets Kappa Chapter apart? I keep coming up with the typical responses: our values, our academics, our intramurals, our friendships, and so on. These qualities, as wonderful as they may be, are not distinct to Kappa Chapter, and the idea of writing an entire article about any one of these made my 7:30 AM biology lab seem fun.

At Kappa Chapter, our accomplishments are diverse, which is the result of a well-rounded chapter. Individually we are all outstanding, but we all have

our areas of expertise. Some of us look before we leap, and others of us believe that if we hesitate we will be lost.

Then one night in my sleep our distinction came to me. We have *synergy*, the scientific phenomenon stating that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. When you put us all together, our synergy helps us conquer obstacles that we could not conquer alone. If one of our members is not able to complete a given task, then others are more than willing to step in and help.

-Tricia Elliot, K

N/Hanover

Nu Chapter at Hanover College has had a year full of motivational activities. During the fall, we participated in an all-chapter retreat that entailed getting ready for homecoming activities and learning about the rush process for our formal winter rush. This retreat helped educate the less-experienced rushers in the chapter and helped motivate everyone to become involved in homecoming activities.

This year, we also continued our quest for academic excellence. Everyone in the chapter started each semester by writing down a goal GPA. We then kept track of our grades by recording them in a weekly folder that was passed around during

chapter. This written record of grades helped us attain our goals by constantly reminding us where we needed to work and where we were excelling. It seems our hard work paid off! We have received the highest GPA among the sororities on campus for the past two semesters.

During the spring we gathered for one last motivational retreat. Not only did this evening further integrate our new members into the house, but

it also helped pinpoint the reason why we had all become a part of Kappa Alpha Theta.

-Karen Appleby/N



O/USC

There are several things that we do at the Omicron Chapter to keep members close and enthused.

One event that united our entire chapter was a luncheon retreat. When we arrived, we each wrote our names down on a piece of paper; during lunch, they were distributed in random order. Then we wrote a question directed to the person whose name was written on each piece of paper. The papers were then recollected, redistributed, read aloud, and responded to. This game was a fun way to learn more about our Theta sisters.

Besides the retreat, other special events, such as the scholarship dinner, help keep us motivated. But the smaller things that we do on a regular basis are also important. At each chapter meeting, the Theta Thought Book is passed around. This is a book in which each member writes to another member of her choice who has been inspirational, sweet, or comforting. This dedication to a special sister is read aloud and is often very touching. The Smarty Kat is also awarded each week to someone who has been particularly studious, as decided by the scholarship chair. Smarty Kat reminds us of the importance of academics each week, motivating us to try harder in school.

These encouraging techniques seem to work; Thetas at the Omicron Chapter are almost always in high spirits. Even without such motivational aids, it is certain that we would all still be happy and excited to be Thetas.

-Devorah Cohen, O

Y/Minnesota

One way we get fired up about Theta membership is having sisterhood events and fun activities during rush. For instance, we recently went bowling at a local bowling alley. We all had a great time, as did the rush guests whom we invited to come along with us.

To help with academics every week, our scholarship chair gives out little awards to two individuals who improved or did exceptionally well in their academics. The awards are very simple, but the reward is being recognized for your achievements in front of all of your sisters!

AH/Vanderbilt

Vanderbilt Thetas are known on campus for their energy and friendly smiles. Energy is kept alive in the house with our 1996 theme, "Go, Girl!" When our president asks for volunteers, hands raise as "Go, Girl!" is chanted around



the room. For those Thetas who do something spectacular in scholarship, service, or friendship, we have weekly awards such as the Smart Cookie and Theta

Necklace. Perhaps the most encouraging part of these particular awards is the number of sisters nominated every week. The kind and uplifting words expressed in the many nominations reflect the great love and respect that our sisters have for one another. With our theme and weekly awards, everyone becomes a part of the energy that characterizes our chapter.

-Linsey Lewis, AH

BK/Drake

The Beta Kappa Chapter at Drake University sold Kappa Alpha Theta to parents at Mom's Weekend and made some money at the same time. The chapter held its first Theta auction.

Theta parents donated all kinds of items, ranging from a pansy windsock



Jill Michnick and Michelle Storm display an item from the Beta Kappa Chapter's auction.

to kite wind chimes to a pansy-painted director's chair. Senior Joy Hayes auctioned off the items to the tune of more than \$1,300 and a lot of laughs.

The auction was held at a downtown hotel where Thetas treated their moms to lunch and presented them with roses in engraved vases. We plan to hold the auction next year, and many parents are already planning new donated items.

-Sara Kagay, BK

AM/Missouri

Not only are Alpha Mu Chapter members fired up, but we also get psyched up each August for rush. Keeping spirits high and promoting Theta spirit is the job of the psych-up committee.

Each fall, a small group of Theta sisters known for their humor and positive attitudes are named to this group.

During the August heat, in the midst of work week and rush preparations, psych-up members organize short activities that let us cut loose for a few minutes. Pretty much anything goes—from Theta *Jeopardy* to a water-balloon fight on the front lawn. Prizes are sometimes awarded for activity winners, and everyone is assured a good laugh during the breaks.

-Erin Kretzschmar, AM

AA/Washington

Keeping everyone fired up about Theta is never difficult. It simply involves a lot of pride in ourselves and the traditions and reputation of Theta. This year's member development focus group chose *pride* as a theme to inspire unity in the house throughout the year. Each week in chapter, a different letter of the word *pride* was presented.

P stands for positive. Every spring a week is devoted to appreciating the freshmen in the chapter.

R stands for respect. Three key elements are stressed: responsibility, rules, and reward.

I stands for intellect. The entire house was excited when we achieved the highest GPA for all University of Washington sororities.

D stands for devotion. Throughout the year, we explain many of the rituals and traditions of Theta and how they affect our lives.

E stands for enthusiasm. The social and exchange chairs encourage active participation in all Theta events beginning with rush in the fall and continuing

all year long for our dances and exchanges.

Every member also understands that Theta pride is not just within our chapter. In April, we sponsored a concert as part of Take Back the Night, a rally to speak out against sexual violence against women. In May, we hosted a debate between the candidates running for student body president and vice-president. It was a tremendous opportunity for all students to meet the candidates and discover what they wanted to do to help our school.

Over Memorial Day Weekend, we sponsored the first annual "Speak Up for Children" 5k run/walk to benefit CASA. It was a tremendous success, and we received lots of support from alumnae and friends and families of chapter members. The community was also very involved; we had about 450 runners in the race.

Here at Alpha Lambda, we all agree that pride keeps us fired up about Theta!

-Erin Campbell, AA

BM/Nevada

On a spring Saturday, members of the Beta Mu Chapter converged on nearby Evans Park and hosted the second annual Greek Athalon. All proceeds were given to CASA.

Fellow Greeks created teams and participated in activities such as the egg toss, the 50-yard dash, the tricycle race, the tug of war, and the obstacle course. Clear blue skies, a radiant sun, tunes from a local DJ, and our own Theta barbecuers created a comfortable atmosphere of friendship and a moment of Greek unity as fellow fraternities and sororities supported Theta and CASA.

A raffle with items from local merchants awarded prizes to many happy participants. As the day came to a close and tired, sun-kissed participants staggered home with prizes and the satisfaction of competition painted on their faces, the Thetas stayed to clean up the remnants. We counted the cash and proudly handed a check to CASA.

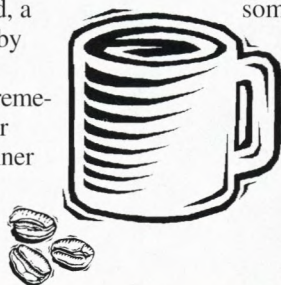
-Tara Hadler, BM

BO/Iowa

Beta Omicron has begun an exciting new program to motivate our members to study! We have started a new series of awards.

To receive the Smart Cookie award, a member must have received an A on an exam, paper, or quiz the week before. One lucky person's name is drawn each week, and she receives a gift certificate to a local cookie shop.

For the Perky Pansy award, a member must be nominated by one of her sisters. The Perky Pansy is a woman who is extremely busy studying for exams or writing term papers. The winner of this award is given a gift certificate to the Java House for some coffee!



Not only does Beta Omicron have new awards, but we have also had the opportunity to study with one another. During finals week, we had study rooms available to us in the business building. Thetas could motivate one another by studying together in the quiet rooms we had reserved. We also had an aerobics study break for those women who wished to help relieve some of the stress that came with finals week. With our new awards, study rooms, and aerobic study breaks, the women of Beta Omicron have been very motivated to study!

-Tia Maragos, BO

BΠ/Michigan State

Studying for exams, attending hours of lectures, and reading hundreds of pages filled with academic jargon are the daily tasks of the average college student. Many manage to ace all of these tasks in addition to committing themselves to other time-consuming activities such as pledging a fraternity or sorority.

Pledging can be a very overwhelming and exhausting experience because of the unfamiliar expectations of the chapter and its members. But new member Dory DeMan says spending the extra time to become better acquainted with active members reaps the benefits of close-knit friendships.

"Knowing that what I put into Theta, I'll get out of Theta is key in motivating my actions," DeMan says.

Beth Brockseker, vice-president development, says, "After joining a chapter, your friends are there, so you want to participate in activities to strengthen those friendships."

And there are many diverse activities for Beta Pis, including study marathons, study hours, car washes, and blood drives, as well as social

events. And according to Kamilah Rodgers, participating in such events not only builds stronger friendships and community relations, but also fulfills the personal need felt by many to get involved and help others.

While all these above activities have helped to increase and encourage Beta Pi participation, the chapter is currently working on developing another activity aimed at motivating members: fireside chats. These will provide Beta Pis with an opportunity to voice their concerns in an informal setting, raising awareness of the chapter's concerns and working to alleviate them.

-Jeannette Porter, BΠ



Kelly Ellis, BΠ/Michigan State, paints faces at the Red Cedar Carnival, which benefits the East Lansing Red Cedar Elementary school.

BΦ/Penn State

For the second year in a row, Beta Phi was named Chapter of the Year at Penn State University. The chapter was chosen out of 23 national sororities on campus.

Chapter members are Dean's list students, honors society members, cheerleaders, tennis players, soccer players, and kickline team members and carry 4.0 grade point averages. Each and every sister continues to be outstanding.

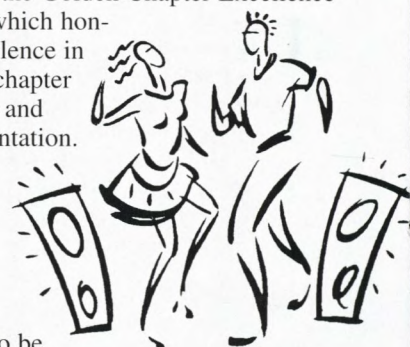
The Chapter of the Year award includes the recognition of effective internal chapter structure as a rating category, and the Beta Phi Chapter was further honored in this category. We received the Golden Chapter Excellence Award, which honors excellence in internal chapter structure and implementation.

In 1995, Stacy Binger was the first

woman to be named overall Dance Marathon chair. Dance Marathon, which raises money for the Four Diamonds Fund and children afflicted with cancer, is not only a highlight at Penn State, but is also the largest student-run philanthropy in the nation. A few months later, Kara Annechini became undergraduate student president. In the spring of 1996, Traci Greca and Lisa Buonocore were named Panhellenic president and Panhellenic vice-president of standards.

The women of Beta Phi are proud of their accomplishments and continue to take pride in their Theta sisterhood. We have already flown above and beyond 22 national chapters and stood out, significantly, from an undergraduate student population of 40,000.

-Christie Lacourse, BΦ



ΓN/N. Dakota State

At the Gamma Nu Chapter, we do a variety of things to keep our sisters fired up about membership. One of the things we do is give Lifesaver awards. These awards are given by one sister to

another in appreciation of a thoughtful gesture, such as helping her study for a test or giving her a ride to work. We also have a Theta of the Week, Theta of the Month, and even a Theta of the Year award.

To encourage academic effort, we reward our sisters who attend all their classes. Each week, those who have not skipped class put their names in a jar we call the Skippy Jar. Each week a name is drawn, and that sister receives a small prize for attending all classes.

The sisters of Gamma Nu believe in recognizing the little things as well as the big things. This gives us a more positive outlook and, therefore, a more positive image on campus.

-Sarah Thompson, ΓN

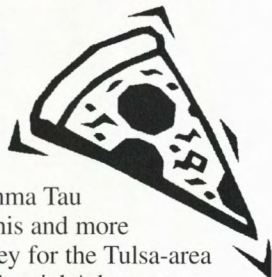
ΓT/Tulsa

Loud music, pizza, soft drinks, and great soccer matches. Sound like fun? The Gamma Tau Chapter enjoyed this and more while raising money for the Tulsa-area Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). In the fall semester, the fourth annual Theta World Cup Kicking for CASA Soccer Tournament was held. Twenty-four teams participated, with students representing various undergraduate, Greek, independent, and law school organizations. This tournament, supported by the university of Tulsa Student Association, raised more than \$800. It is the largest Greek fund-raiser on campus.

Thetas participated throughout the day in various ways: selling pizza, soft drinks, and T-shirts; line judging, playing music, officiating, and serving as coaches to the teams. Five members of the chapter appeared on an edition of *Good Morning, Oklahoma*. They discussed the tournament, the Fraternity, and CASA. They also modeled the present and past Theta World Cup T-shirts.

We are always looking for ways to improve and expand Theta World Cup. As the fifth annual tournament approaches, we will be preparing for another great soccer tournament. The Tulsa-area CASA representative commended the Gamma Tau chapter for our fund-raising efforts, and we had a fantastic time in the process. The 1995 Theta World Cup IV was a great success!

-Kim Neilson, ΓT



ΓΩ/Auburn

This year, the members of Gamma Omega have taken a different approach to motivating ourselves for the various events around campus. Each member is assigned to one of three teams—Kappa, Alpha, or Theta—and the activities are then distributed among the teams. If a sister cannot make an event to which her team is assigned, she can trade with a sister on another team. The teams relieve the pressure for every sister to be at every event and also allow us to focus on scholarship.

This quarter, Gamma Omega initiated five new members during Open Rush, and the teams were used throughout Initiation Week. For example, the Kappa team set up for Initiation, the Alpha team conducted Initiation,



Leslie Hanson, Kim Burleson, Michelle Dougherty, Amanda Perry, and Heather Eaton, all ΓΩ/Auburn, celebrate Founders Day with a bowl-athon.

and the Theta team disassembled. The rest of Initiation week was divided among the teams in much the same manner.

The use of our three teams has increased participation at events. By cutting down on the number of events each member is expected to attend, the members do not feel overburdened and are more eager to participate in events. As a chapter, we have become more efficient and have a more positive attitude. Our president, Julie Russell, said, "We have really enjoyed using the

teams. It has been a great way for Kappa Alpha Theta to be well-represented at every possible event without sisters having to give up a lot of study time."

-Dinah Tackett, ΓΩ

ΔZ/Emory

Perhaps the easiest way to get excited about an event is to appreciate the enthusiasm of others. At the Delta Zeta Chapter, the new members feel the charge from the older sisters and the executive board in particular. We believe that the officers are in fortunate positions that allow them to make positive change and lead by example. When officers show their support at sporting events and service projects while still maintaining good grades, the new members follow their lead.

Mixers, sister functions, date parties, semi-formal, and formal give members a chance to relax and have a good time amid the stresses of academics at Emory. Scholarship is stressed on a weekly basis. Study hours are available for new members and sisters, so success is reached in gaining knowledge and earning good grades. For sisters in honor societies and on the Dean's List,

awards and recognition are given out at chapter. Each week, Thetas who go above and beyond are recognized and honored for their achievements.

With the support and encouragement sisters provide for one another, it takes little extra effort to get members "fired up." Theta lights its own spark in every woman, providing an outlet for creativity and kindness.

-Sara Ducharme, ΔZ

EZ/Mississippi

The Epsilon Zeta Chapter has a reputation at the University of Mississippi for being down-to-earth, close, and a lot of fun. We uphold this reputation by keeping our spirits up and having frequent group activities.

Within the chapter, we have an awards chairman who also helps keep spirits up. The awards chairman gives

out awards every meeting for positive attitude, activity, scholarship, even friendliness. These awards and "happies" given out during chapter meetings keep everyone interested and positive.

Through group activities and recognition, Epsilon Zeta members remember just how lucky they are to be in such a special group. However, the most important thing is that we all treat one another with respect, like true sisters. The best part is knowing that wherever you are on campus or wherever you are in Oxford, you have an automatic friend—a fellow Theta.

-Cara Rasmussen, EZ

EP/Bucknell

The Epsilon Pi Chapter is a support system of sisters: Each member has other sisters to rely on and be with in times of both happiness and sadness. What we like best to share with one another are our achievements and accomplishments. At each chapter meeting, our vice-president development announces the awards of the week, musical and artistic accomplishments, publications, performances, internships, scholarships, and other noteworthy and praise-deserving feats. The best part about this is that members do not tell of their own personal achievements; either another sister tells the VPD or the VPD finds out through the campus newspaper or other sources. In this way, we show our pride in our fellow members and their accomplishments, and the entire chapter shares in the happiness. (The reward of a teeny-tiny candy bar is not a bad perk, either!)

-Stacey Siravo, EPI

ES/UC Irvine

The Epsilon Sigma Chapter participates in many different activities and gives lots of awards in order to keep our members "fired up." In the area of academic achievement, our scholarship chair goes out of her way to recognize hard-working members. The Smart Cookie Award is a bag of cookies and is given weekly to each member who has received a good grade on a midterm or paper. This Cat Don't Cut is another award given weekly to a Theta who has attended each of her classes of the previous week. The Pansy Board recognizes those members who have achieved a quarterly GPA of 3.5 or higher. The board hangs in our house so that all can see how proud we are of these members!

Other awards are given at our meetings to reward certain members for their extra help and/or achievements. The You Light Up Our Life Award recognizes a quiet strength in the chapter. Super Stars is a board showing all of our members' names and activities. Each member gets to put a star sticker by her name if she participated in a certain activity. The purpose of this is to recognize those members who contribute their time to Theta.

All of these awards are small, but are our chapter's way of recognizing the members who go above and beyond



Members of the Epsilon Sigma Chapter at UC Irvine pose for a photo at a nearby park after going on a walk with their mothers.

their roles as Thetas. These awards help inspire all the other members to strive to accomplish their goals and get fired up about being a Theta!

-Stephanie Hodges, ES

ZH/Wofford College

Zeta Eta members always seem to be motivated by that extra spark. The Sunshine Jar and Theta KAT awards encourage sisters to be diligent and enthusiastic about Theta. Wearing new T-shirts, creating sidewalk murals throughout campus, singing Theta songs and chants around campus, and making endless posters for Greek Games and

Spring Weekend help us feel the spirit of the occasion and pride in our chapter. Giving warm fuzzies in chapter meetings lets sisters pass along encouraging and motivational words to each other.

Zeta Eta has some unique ways of recognizing accomplishments and successes. The Bettie Locke Hamilton Award is presented to a senior at the final chapter meeting for best exemplifying Theta virtues for her years of college.

Zeta Eta has several academic supports for sisters. At the beginning of the semester, sisters are given paper kites with



Members of the Beta Delta Chapter at the University of Arizona are well-known for their *Grease* skit during Rush. The skit is always a huge success, with the cast laughing, singing, and dancing to this theme.

long tails. Throughout the semester, when a sister makes a good grade, she informs the scholarship chair, who in turn gives her a bow with the good grade on it. At the end of the semester, there is a competition to see which sister has the most kite tails.

With all of these awards, encouragements, and motivations, it is no wonder that the Zeta Eta women always have that spark in their eyes!

-Paula Clarkson, ZH

ZΘ/California Polytechnic State

The sisters in the Zeta Theta chapter are always "fired up." This energy can be seen in the numerous motivational techniques that the Theta sisters have devised to insure that their active, busy chapter is able to maintain its high participation and continual stream of awards and accomplishments.

To encourage participation in Theta events, officers implemented Loyalty circles at the beginning of 1996. The chapter is divided into three groups, the Kappas, the Alphas, and the Thetas. Each group is asked to attend a certain event. If a member is unable to attend, she is asked to find another Theta to take her place. No one is overloaded by all the events that we are involved in, but we can be sure that Theta will be represented.

We recently developed a Smartie of the Week box. This pansy-adorned box gets passed around, and girls enter their academic achievements. Three are chosen and read to the entire chapter. The Theta Smartie gets the encouragement and acknowledgment of her hard work and Smarties candies as well.

Many members excel beyond normal achievements and are awarded the Standards basket. The basket goes from sister to sister, filled with goodies and small gifts. The person who was previously awarded the basket chooses another sister whom she feels has achieved a special accomplishment. She presents the basket to the deserving Theta and describes the accomplishment to the chapter.

With all of the motivational techniques that encourage sisters to excel in areas including studies, Theta events, and special accomplishments, it is no wonder that the Zeta Theta chapter continues to shine!

-Erin Massey, ZΘ

ZP/UC San Diego

Since we are a relatively new chapter on our campus, the Zeta Rho Chapter (est. 1994) has often found itself in the role of a scrappy and persistent underdog, scratching its way to the top of the Panhellenic tier and gaining respect for our hard work and varied achievements along the way. It seems as though enthusiasm and motivation have paid off with several personal successes for Zeta Rho Thetas, as well as chapter achievements like first place in the annual Greek Talent Show, improved scholastic standing among other sororities, and the 1996 Most Improved Chapter Award.

Our scholastic chair, Vanessa Ziegler, rewards personal and chapter achievements in the area of scholarship. Every week a box is passed around for each member to submit a note publicizing pride in her or a sister's personal academic achievement. The chapter's academic achievements this past year have been many, but one of the most important has been raised Panhellenic academic standing due to a greatly improved

chapter GPA.

In order to increase participation in events and encourage chapter visibility on campus, Niki Estrin, our vice-president of public relations, created spirit teams. Incentive points are awarded to the teams for a variety of individual and team accomplishments. Niki made every Wednesday a wear-your-letters day. It never fails to remind you of how glad you are to have found sisterhood across such a large campus!

Many members' personal achievements within the sorority are recognized weekly with a variety of awards, the most popular is which is Theta Star of the Day. Any Theta who showed exceptional enthusiasm and hard work during the previous week can win this award and be serenaded by the chapter with the song accompanying it. Although the song is silly, doesn't rhyme, and certainly doesn't deserve publication, sisters are enthusiastic about creating a unique rendition of it every time the award is won.

-Dierdre Hudson, ZP

ZT/Delaware

Zeta Tau Chapter had a most successful and challenging year. At this point, at the end of a rewarding year for all 101 members, I believe that the question we are asking ourselves is "How could we *not* be fired up about Theta?"

We have had programs such as Study Buddies to lend added support and keep in touch with one another's tests, papers, and more stressful moments, and to simply be there to say good luck. Thetas of the Week are recognized at meetings for outstanding efforts, as are Theta smarties for academic achievements. The A box has become a popular place to let

sisters tell the chapter about that grueling biochem exam they might have received an A on. Theta Thursday is a wear-letters day, followed by ice cream and relaxing in the University's eatery.

In April, Zeta Tau had a successful retreat to Wildwood, NJ, where more ideas were generated by the original sisters as well as our new members. The chapter was

divided into teams, beginning a new intrasorority competition to see which team can attend the most Theta or campus activities. An academic ice cream social was

held in May honoring those with outstanding GPAs and other special academic merits. Secret exam study pals were assigned, and sisters decorated doors and left care packages for others during that week. Our new members have more enthusiasm than we ever hoped for—they are giving us bright ideas and ways to keep our spirit alive. During Greek Week we were outstanding in our efforts, and even managed to bring home some blue ribbons. Until every person, Greek or not, knows about Zeta Tau's arrival on Delaware's campus, we will be driven to show what we're made of.

-Anne Stuart Dawson, ZT

■



Taking Risks the Write Way

For novelist Kate Lehrer, putting pen to paper is high-stakes fun.

The first thing you notice when talking to Kate Staples Lehrer, Gamma Psi/Texas Christian, is that she has a great laugh: warm and infectious. The second thing you realize is that she is a great storyteller. The latter doesn't really come as a surprise because Lehrer is a storyteller by profession; she is a novelist with three successful books to her credit.

Lehrer's first novel, *Best Intentions*, was published in 1987 and was a bestseller. *When They Took Away the Man in the Moon* debuted in 1993, and her current book, *Out of Eden*, was published in September to glowing reviews. She says that she always knew that she wanted to write, even though it can be a very ego-bruising occupation. She tells a story to illustrate just how risky it can be.

"Writing is like jumping off the high diving board. I was taking this pass-or-fail course in college, and the teacher threatened to fail me if I didn't jump off. I couldn't bear to even think of failing, so I was up on that diving board for 20 or 30 minutes. The whole class was looking at me, but I simply couldn't jump. I had to crawl off the diving board backward. It was hideous. And I realized many years later that writing for me is exactly like getting to

the edge of that diving board. I never know if I'm going to be a swan or a fool."

Despite deciding on a writing career at age 11, Kate Lehrer actually began that career only 10 years ago, after teaching English literature, get-

ting married, and rearing three daughters. "I actually thought that when I graduated, I could be a wonderful writer and teach school to support myself," she recounts. "And I would marry and be the perfect wife, and I would have six children and be the perfect mother. All at the same time! But I got married young, and I had children young, and I realized that I couldn't walk and chew gum at the same time. So I got delayed."

That delay, she feels, is something she shares with many women. "If you're a woman, it's still hard to figure out what you can do and what you can be. It's a real struggle."

The struggle to be something is what drives the plot of her most recent work, *Out of Eden*. Two young women—an American widow and the daughter of a French countess—decide to leave the glitter of Paris in the 1880s and move to the American frontier of Kansas. They dream of a life not ruled by a rigid society and of something more for themselves than just marriage.

Although fiction, the book is based on Kansas history. The idea came from Lehrer's husband, television journalist and fellow novelist Jim Lehrer, who saw an article in a regional publication. The article detailed the mystery of twin six-room houses built in the middle of the Kansas prairie. Little is known about the women who had the houses built or about their motivations in doing so.

Although her husband was intrigued by the story, at first, Lehrer says, she wasn't interested at all. "I thought, *This isn't my thing. I've never written historical fiction. I write contemporary angst.*

"But these women just kept haunting me. What would make them go to Kansas? What would be all the forces at play on them when they did that? Finally, it dawned on me that these questions were my novel."

"The human spirit, the human drama, never changes. All you do is change the setting."

Once she had decided to write the hundred-year-old story of two rebellious women who strive to live independent lives, Lehrer faced an enormous amount of research. It was important to her that the historical context of the novel be accurate. She went so far as to consult the *Oxford English Dictionary* to ensure that the words her characters speak were actually in use in the 1880s.

"I was learning about the country in the 1880s; I was learning about Kansas and Paris and feminism. I was into the political trends of the time and all the cultural trends. It just boggled the mind," she recalls.

"But I realized that the country was going through the same things that we're going through now. And women then—although things were much worse for them, of course—were fighting a lot of the same battles we're fighting now."

While she was writing *Out of Eden*, Lehrer attended a Theta reunion in Texas. She began thinking about the Fraternity and its founders, and she was struck by the daring of women who attended college more than a century ago. "These women were going so against the grain. They had to be so brave to go to college and gather together the way they did. It was an incredible thing."

Lehrer points out the 1880s and the 1990s share a hunger for family structure and ideals, and she suggests that this may be an attempt to compensate for an earlier, often idealized, family portrait. She also suggests a parallel between the nation's ambivalence about conquering new frontiers at the end of the nineteenth century and our current unease about rapidly advancing technologies.

"I realized that the human spirit, the human drama, never changes. The sense of a lack of control permeated the culture then as it does now. So any angst is contemporary angst. All you do is change the setting."

The timeless elements of human nature run through all three of Lehrer's books. Strong female characters are common to her novels, as well. She says that she never intentionally sits

down to write about strong women, but perhaps that tendency evolves from her background.

"I came right out of a Texas matriarchy," she explains. Her father died when she was seven years old, and Lehrer was raised by her mother, five aunts, and an uncle.

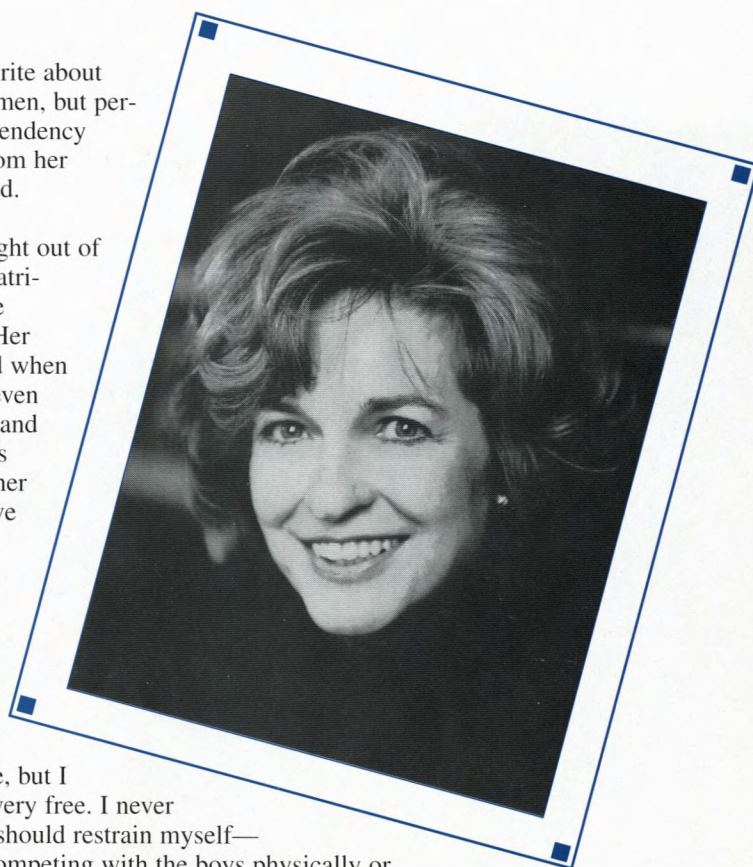
"I grew up in a much more conventional time, but I felt very, very free. I never felt that I should restrain myself—whether competing with the boys physically or competing with them in class. My theory has always been that Texas men are used to strong women. Their mothers were all strong women!"

In Lehrer's second novel, *When They Took Away the Man in the Moon*, she tried to capture the spirit of the very independent-minded

women of her youth. "I used those Texas women's voices that I had grown up with," she says. "The incidents in the book weren't true, but the inflections, the tone, the kinds of things that were said were true."

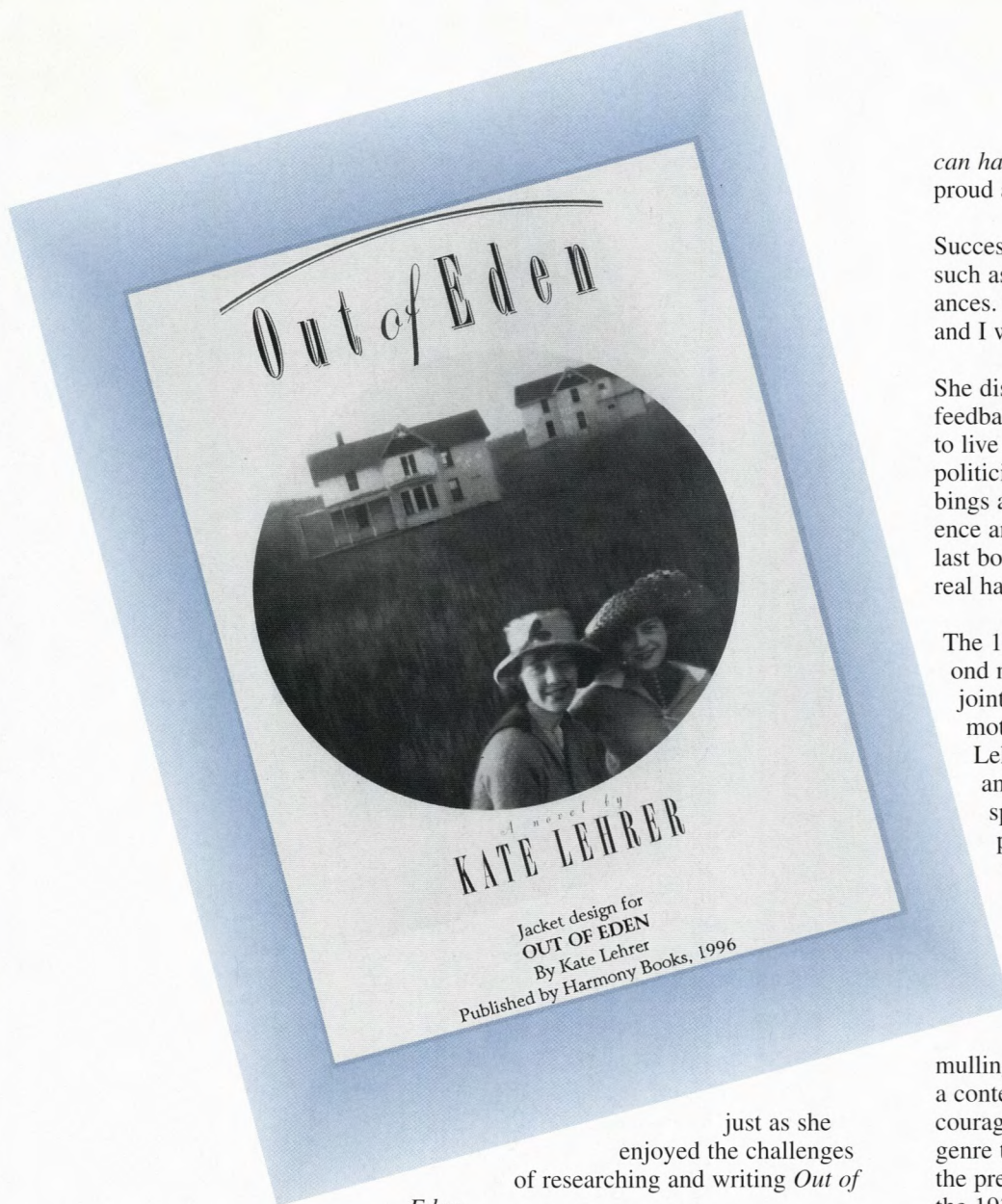
To build a framework for her story of a Texas childhood, she drew on her recent years of

living amid the politics of Washington, DC. The heroine of *When They Took Away the Man in the Moon* is a political campaign consultant. Reviewers of the novel lauded Lehrer's ability to move back and forth through 40 years of a woman's experience. She says she enjoyed the challenge of dealing with different time frames,



Kate Staples Lehrer,
ΓΨ/Texas Christian

"I realized before my last book tour was over that I'd gotten to be a real ham."



just as she
enjoyed the challenges
of researching and writing *Out of*
Eden.

Lehrer's third novel, published in September, has received glowing reviews.

"Each book that I've written is so different—they've each had their own requirements. But if they weren't different, they wouldn't be fun or engaging for me. I really want the challenge, or it's just not worth putting the time in."

Rising to the challenges of writing has brought Lehrer success and critical acclaim: reviewers have compared her work to Edith Wharton's and Jane Austen's. "I *really* like that," she admits. "I think it was the *Baltimore Sun* that said the latest book was out of the Wharton/Cather school. And I thought, *OK, I*

can handle that!" She sounds pleased and proud and a little surprised as she reveals this.

Success has brought new challenges to Lehrer, such as making television and radio appearances. "It was very painful in the beginning, and I was very unsure of myself," she reports.

She discovered, however, that she loves the feedback that comes with speaking and reading to live audiences. "I finally understood how politicians—performers, too—can take drubbings all day, but then they have one good audience and can keep going. I realized before my last book tour was over that I'd gotten to be a real ham," she reveals with a laugh.

The 1993 book tour to promote Lehrer's second novel was somewhat unusual: It was a joint tour with her husband, who was promoting his seventh novel. Jim and Kate Lehrer celebrated their thirty-third wedding anniversary during the tour. An anniversary spent with books was particularly appropriate for the couple, who actually met when "Jim offered to carry a box of books up the stairs to my first apartment," Lehrer says.

Now that *Out of Eden* is in bookstores, does she have plans for a new novel? Lehrer says that she's actually mulling over two ideas. She would love to write a contemporary novel about different kinds of courage and then return to the historical novel genre to write about her grandmother, who was the president and owner of an oil company in the 1930s.

But for now, she plans to take a little break.

She'll visit people, bicycle, jog, and read. In fact, she says, reading is one of the things that compels her to jump off that metaphoric high diving board and continue to write. "I suppose I write because I love to read. And because when I'm really clicking, it's great fun." ■

"If you're a woman, it's still hard to figure out what you can do and what you can be."



TALENTED THETAS

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

by Sandra Shapard

I catch you in my closet,
I discover you in my drawers,
I hear the hum of my hair dryer
behind closed bathroom doors.

I find you in my jewelry
and in my wardrobe shelf;
is there nothing sacred
that is only for myself?

Once I had a closet,
once I had some shoes,
but then you turned fourteen
and I didn't realize what I'd lose.

I lost one baby daughter,
and I lost nine pairs of hose;
but, oh, the daughter I'm enjoying now
is worth much more than clothes.

© Sandra Shapard 1994

This is a periodic feature of
The Magazine highlighting
the lives and work of
accomplished Thetas.



Sandra Gales Shapard,

Delta/Illinois, is a poet, columnist, guest speaker, and community volunteer. Four books of her poetry have been published, and her work has also appeared in *McCall's*, *Ladies Home Journal*, and *Woman's Day*. Shapard and her husband have three children and live in Oklahoma City.

DATA THETA

by Sandra Shapard

(written for the Oklahoma City Alumnae Chapter's
celebration of Founders Day in 1996)

When my son first left for college,
his dad gave him Advice for Life:
you can date each and every Kappa,
but bring home a THETA for a wife.

You can party with the Tri Delts,
and it's fine to date a Zeta,
but when it's time to marry,
be sure to find a THETA.

Chi Os can be on your agenda,
and Pi Phis are fun for a date,
but never, ever forget that
you'll want a THETA for your mate.

We want you to enjoy your college years
and give all the sororities a spin,
but never buy a ring unless
KAPPA ALPHA THETA is on her pin.

During your four years of college,
you'll go from one house to another,
but take the advice of your smiling ol' dad
and bring home a THETA to your mother.

© Sandra Shapard 1996

It's Payback Time!

Managing Your Student Loans

So you've done it. You've graduated AND gotten a job: You're on your way! But not everything is rosy. Each month when you sit down to pay your bills, you keep coming up short. And now those student loans you took out to help finance your education are coming due.

Don't panic. You're not alone. Nearly half of the 15 million college students in the US need to borrow to finance their educations; the average borrower has outstanding loans totaling \$10,500. But many student loan holders offer repayment options and discount programs that can simplify loan repayment ... and even translate into cheaper monthly payments for you.

"The key to managing your debt is to first know all of your options," says Lydia M. Marshall, executive vice-president of Student Loan Marketing Association (Sallie Mae), the largest holder and servicer of education loans. "Most lenders or loan servicers offer a variety of repayment programs that enable you to better manage your money."

The most common types of federally guaranteed education assistance are Stafford loans, SLS loans to independent undergraduate and graduate students, and PLUS loans to students' parents. Stafford loans, designed for families without exceptional need, require that principal payments begin 6 months after the student leaves school. PLUS loans allow parents of all income levels to borrow up to the total cost of their child's education, less any other financial aid received. Parents must begin repayment within 60 days of receiving the funds. The SLS loan is similar in its requirements to the PLUS loan.

The typical repayment choice for borrowers of Stafford, SLS, and PLUS loans is *standard or level repayment*, where you make equal, fixed payments each month. But if you borrowed heavily during school, making level payments may not be easy, especially during the first few years after leaving school.

If that's the case, Marshall suggests that you consider changing to a different payment plan for more manageable repayment. There is usually no fee to switch to another repayment program, she explains.

- A **graduated payment plan** can give you some short-term relief. This plan enables you to make lower, interest-only payments for a few years and then gradually increase your repayment amount through the remainder of the term. Graduated repayment still enables you to pay off the loan in ten years, but initial monthly payments can be more than 40 percent lower than with standard repayment.

- **Income-sensitive repayment** ties the loan payment amount to your earnings, which can be especially helpful at the beginning of your career.

- **Loan consolidation** provides borrowers with loans totaling \$7,500 or more the opportunity to lower their monthly payments by extending the term of the loan from 10 years to 15 or even 20 years.

While all of these plans can offer budgetary relief, it's important to remember that you'll be paying more in interest costs over the life of the loan.

Savvy borrowers should also explore any repayment benefit programs that their loan holders offer. For example, lenders who partner with Sallie Mae offer Stafford loan borrowers who make their first 48 scheduled payments on time a two-percentage-point reduction on their monthly loan payments for the remainder of the loan's term.

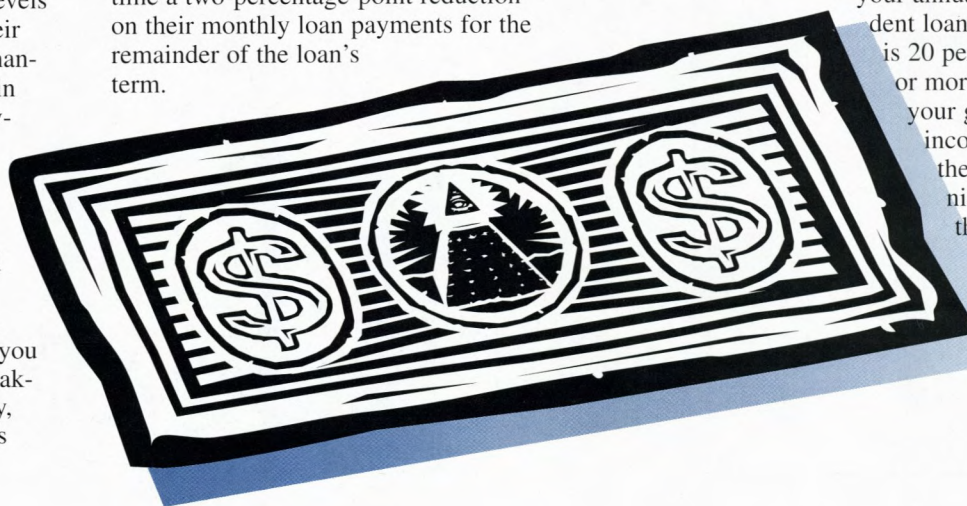
Sallie Mae also offers borrowers who have their payments automatically deducted from a checking or savings account a $\frac{1}{4}$ percent discount on their loan. And borrowers who make their first 24 scheduled payments on time receive a credit to their account.

Marshall points out that these three repayment programs could enable a borrower with outstanding loans totaling \$15,000 to save \$1,500. Check with your loan holder to see what you can do to lower your payments. Remember, all federally sponsored loans allow you to prepay part or all of your loan obligation at any time without penalty, which can greatly reduce the total cost of your loan.

Even after your repayment period begins, you may be able to delay your payment by obtaining a *deferment*. By law, deferments are available for borrowers who return to school at least half-time, are unemployed, or are experiencing economic hardship. To request a deferment, you need to complete a deferment form, which is available from your loan servicer.

If you are temporarily unable to meet your repayment obligation, you may be able to postpone or reduce your payments by contacting your loan servicer and arranging for a *forbearance*. You will still be responsible for any interest that accrues during the forbearance period, but it could be the difference between going into default or not. If

your annual student loan debt is 20 percent or more of your gross income, the organization that holds your



loan *must* grant you a forbearance at your request.

And a final word on defaults: don't. Defaulting on your student loans will ruin your credit rating and could potentially keep you from getting a car loan, a mortgage, or even a job. If you are having difficulty making your payments on time, contact your loan holder to discuss your options. Loan holders are anxious to help you get back on the road to repayment.

Information for this article was supplied by
Student Loan Marketing Association
(Sallie Mae).



Loans From Theta

Many Thetas aren't aware that the Fraternity makes education loans. The Kappa Alpha Theta Student Loan Fund (SLF) was established in 1904 to promote the welfare of the Fraternity by aiding women who meet financial difficulties in the pursuit of their degrees.

"The Student Loan Fund is Thetas lending money to other Thetas. And that's what makes it special," says Sally Cowan Reinhold, Psi/Wisconsin, chairman of the student loan fund committee. "This is often the only way these young women are able to finish their educations."

Since 1992, more than 85 Thetas have received loans from the SLF. Loan amounts have ranged from \$350 to \$2,500.

Loans are granted to initiated, undergraduate members of Kappa Alpha Theta based on need, scholastic achievement, and contribution to the Fraternity and to the university. Applicants must be members in good standing, and preference is given to junior and senior members. Former chapter consultant Christine Lawson, Omega/UC Berkeley, explains that she paid for her own education, and a loan from the SLF allowed her to cut back on the hours she had to work. "Without my Theta loan, my grades and cam-

pus involvement definitely would have suffered," she says.

The maximum amount that may be loaned to one member from the SLF is \$2,500. The interest charged is 8 percent annually per note. The first interest payment is due one year from the date the loan is granted and again on that date until the loan is amortized and monthly principal and interest payments begin. These monthly payments begin six months after graduation.

Requests for applications to the Kappa Alpha Theta Student Loan Fund may be sent to Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity, attn: Student Loan Fund, 8740 Founders Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46268.

Thetas may also be interested in the Olympus loan program. Kappa Alpha Theta has recently collaborated with Olympus Capital for Knowledge to offer educational loans to Thetas and their family members. The selection of loan recipients is processed and managed by Olympus. The Fraternity receives a one-time royalty payment for each loan disbursed. Stafford and PLUS student loans are also available through the Olympus program. For more information, see the advertisement on the back cover of this magazine. ■

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FOR WOMEN ONLY TOURS. Limited to seven ladies. Chateaux, inns, manor houses, picnics, tiny cafés, three-star restaurants, country drives, Roman ruins, Eiffel Tower. France, spring '97. Pat Leer, 100 Regency Dr. E #102, Arlington Heights, IL 60004. 847-670-1185 or fax 847-670-8655. ■

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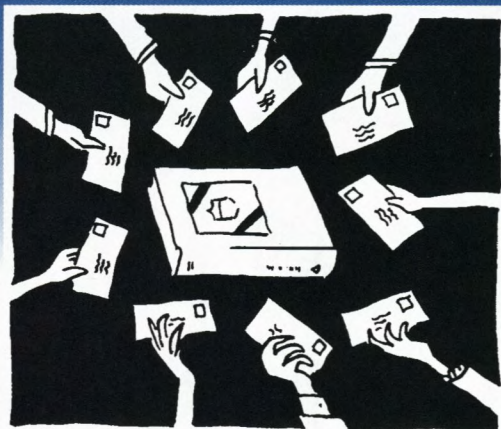
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Please type or print ad message, attach to this form, and submit along with your payment check to the Editor.

Copy deadline dates are listed on page 2.

The Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae Directory promises to be the definitive reference of more than 106,500 of our alumnae. Don't miss the chance to be part of it!



All Kappa Alpha Theta alumnae were recently notified of our new alumnae directory and asked for their input. If you have not already completed and mailed your questionnaire, please do so today. This will ensure that your personal information will be accurate in this great new reference book.

The verification phase of this project will soon begin. Alumnae will receive a telephone call from Bernard C. Harris Publishing

Company, Inc. Please give the representative who calls a few moments of your time to verify your listing.

The Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity Alumnae Directory will be available in July 1997.

To order the alumnae directory, please advise the Harris representative when she calls.

This will be the only opportunity alumnae will have to order the book.



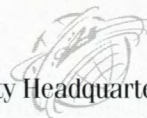
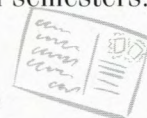
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Are you a senior graduating in December or May?
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For more information, contact Kelley Hurst or Monica Boldt at Fraternity Headquarters ASAP.

phone 317-876-1870 - or - 1-800-526-1870

e-mail kelly@thetahq.org - or - monica@thetahq.org



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Correspondence or telephone calls to officers or trustees of Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity or Foundation may be directed to:

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8740 Founders Road,
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An Indiana Not-for-Profit Corporation established May 26, 1961, for the purpose of receiving and disbursing funds in order to continue and increase the philanthropic, scholastic, and leadership programs of the Fraternity.

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These **Betty Baur Lambert Society** members are believers. They believe in Theta's future. They are all part of a special recognition society established by the Foundation in 1992 to honor members, family, and friends who have remembered Theta in their wills; given a gift of life insurance, retirement plan or property; or established a charitable trust. Their generous gifts will help ensure that Theta is a life-changing organization for women in the future. Planned gifts received have established named trusts and scholarship endowments and benefitted the educational and philanthropic programs of the Foundation that touch the lives of thousands of young women each year.

Members receive a special recognition pin; a subscription to the Foundation's newsletter, *Theta Today*; and appear in society listings in the annual Donor Report and other publications. They also have the satisfaction of knowing that they will leave a lasting legacy to the Fraternity ideals of social, intellectual, and moral growth of our members.



Help Your Estate and Ensure Theta's Future

Several options for an estate gift can benefit your tax liability and Theta at the same time. Consult with your attorney or financial planner for the best giving options for you and your family.

- Include a Bequest to the Foundation in your Will
- Purchase a Life Insurance Policy or Donate an Existing Policy
- Establish a Charitable Trust
- Designate the Foundation as Beneficiary to a Retirement Plan or IRA
- Give a Gift of Appreciated Property

Please contact Nancy Frick at the Foundation office to report a gift you have already established, to discuss gift options, or to receive further information:

1-800-526-1870 ext. 119
e-mail: nancy@thetahq.org

Who Was Betty Lambert?

Betty Baur Lambert (d. 1988) was initiated at AX/Purdue in 1934. She explained to many that her 33-year business career happened because she was elected president of her chapter. She said, "In retrospect I think I had no personality, no beauty in an age of beauty queens, but I was definitely scholarship-oriented. When that fantastic group of all that I aspired to be thought me competent to be in charge, it gave me the confidence that has never left me."

Betty and her husband, Jim, decided that they wanted to help young women who were really serious about their careers and chose Betty's special interests of business and the arts as a focus. Their estate gift established the Betty B. and James B. Lambert Graduate Scholarships, which this year generated more than \$100,000 in graduate scholarship awards to recipient Thetas.

Betty's vision and commitment to Theta formed a lasting legacy that will benefit young women now and in the years to come.



IN MEMORIAM

Nancy Rock Brown (Mrs. Kenneth)
Albion 1960; October 1995

Dorothy Daniels Hunter (Mrs. Robert)
Allegheny 1928; July 1996

Ruth Dickerson Creager (Mrs. Clayton)
Butler 1935; May 1996

Jane Owen Ellis (Mrs. G. Richard)
Butler 1938; August 1996

Barbara Phelps Perry
Butler 1938; September 1996

Elizabeth Carruthers Benedict (Mrs. Samuel)
Cincinnati 1927; April 1996

Katurah Myrick Marshall (Mrs. John)
College of William & Mary 1924;
November 1995

Constance Venable
Colorado 1936; August 1996

Mary Beebe Papanos (Mrs. Stanley)
Connecticut 1942; July 1996

Jane Heitkamp Cudlipp (Mrs. Chandler)
Cornell 1950; August 1996

Madonna Myers Atkins Liebttag (Mrs. Ted)
DePauw 1927; August 1996

Eloise Marsh Claiborne (Mrs. J. Berkeley)
Drake 1935; April 1996

Doris de Lacy Moody (Mrs. Warren)
Fresno State 1953; August 1996

Katherine Davis Porter (Mrs. Lester L.)
Georgia 1948; August 1996

Mary Vangilse Beaver
Idaho 1921; July 1996

Joyce Carleton Torie (Mrs. Charles)
Illinois 1944; April 1996

Doral Baugh Cravens (Mrs. Joseph)
Indiana 1943; August 1996

Helen Haines Larson (Mrs. Raymond)
Kansas 1927; February 1996

Marjorie Shader Parkinson (Mrs. William)
Kansas 1932; February 1996

Helen Tonskemper Ragen
Lawrence 1928; January 1996

Carol Andrus Bierley (Mrs. Larry)
Maryland 1972; June 1996

Mary Minor Meisel (Mrs. Lorne)
Michigan 1937; July 1996

Shirley Trapp Hepner (Mrs. Neal)
Michigan State 1944; September 1996

Yvonne Stoddard Withy (Mrs. George)
Minnesota 1935; September 1996

Frances Crossman Hobart Martin
Missouri 1933; July 1996

Constance Rudder Rogers (Mrs. Douglas)
Missouri 1945; July 1996

Catherine White Byrd
Montana 1926; June 1996

Isabelle Krumm Dalling (Mrs. John)
Nebraska 1937; July 1996

Josephine Orr Danielson (Mrs. Robert)
Nebraska 1931; July 1996

Shirley Keller Fields (Mrs. Don)
Nevada 1947; August 1996

Frances Deupree Millard May
(Mrs. Edward)
Newcomb-Tulane 1917; September 1996

Flora McBryde Yarborough (Mrs. James)
Newcomb-Tulane 1928; August 1996

Margaret Alexander Swanson
North Dakota 1934; September 1996

Sally Donelan Burnham (Mrs. Hubert)
Northwestern 1948; July 1996

Winifred Armstrong Lehman
(Mrs. Benjamin)
Ohio State 1931; March 1996

Henry Hall Stallworth (Mrs. W. M.)
Ohio State 1938; April 1996

Charlotte Davis Morrison (Mrs. William)
Oklahoma 1934; July 1996

Edna Murphy Hoffman (Mrs. George)
Oregon 1923; August 1996

Marian Marks Martell (Mrs. Edward)
Oregon 1939; August 1996

Janet Woolcutt Heinrich (Mrs. Charles)
Oregon State 1952; August 1996

Jean Ford Molloy (Mrs. Gerald L.)
Penn State 1944; May 1996

Mary Louise D'Olier Shuman (Mrs. George)
Penn State 1933; August 1996

Paula Richert Loving (Mrs. William)
Purdue 1975; August 1996

Mary Reid Hyde
Southern Methodist 1954; August 1996

Eleanor Foote Hand (Mrs. David)
Swarthmore 1922; August 1996

Frances Spence Plate (Mrs. William)
Swarthmore 1923; July 1996

Gretchen Klumpp Pilgrim
Texas 1954; August 1996

Nancye Tacquard Williams (Mrs. T. H.)
Texas 1930; August 1996

Marci Lynn McDonald
Texas A & M 1988; August 1996

Elizabeth Simons
Texas Christian 1991; August 1996

Margaret Leon McManus (Mrs. John J.)
Texas Tech 1970; April 1996

Carol L. Clark
Toronto 1931; May 1996

Kelly T. Lawrence
UC Los Angeles 1988; September 1996

Oakalla Bellis Strong (Mrs. T.)
UC Los Angeles 1927; July 1996

Patricia Deitz Leary (Mrs. R. J.)
Washburn 1946; August 1996

Janet Turnbull MacDonald (Mrs. Gregg)
Washington 1942; July 1996

Peyton Hawes Dunn
Washington-St.Louis 1921; July 1996

Adelaide Nation Cooley (Mrs. William)
Wisconsin 1934; August 1996

**Dates represent year of initiation and month and year of death.*



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THETA REUNIONS



BE

The 1954 pledge class of the Beta Epsilon Chapter at Oregon State held their first reunion in Pebble Beach, Calif., in 1996. Back row: Marianne Leaf Fullman, Karen Anderson Rogers, Kay Settergren McCauley, Sally Severance Edmiston, Linda Reid Brown; Second row: Donna Morse Ryman, Sue Gallo Coleman, Mary Hanigan, Barbara Abram Markesbery, Nina Gollersrud Christopherson, Jan Morrison Murphy, Margery Stockman Guthrie, Ann Peterson; Front: Kitty Metcalf Miller.



ΓΩ

Members from the pledge classes of 1960 through 1965 of the Gamma Omega Chapter at Auburn pose on the front steps of Dorm 4, the previous home of the chapter. Back row: Laray Mays Kelly, Marcia McGuire Collett, Carolyn Geiger Holley, Fran Cooper Sale, Harriette Mitchell Huggins; Second row: Carole Strain Griffith, Joan Samuelson Carter, Sandra Peeler Jones, Nancy Greene Williams, Judy Burnett Rogan, Sue Brock Eddleman, Mary Dixon; Front row: Sue Dunn Etheridge, Susie Johnson Holland, Pat Foote Howle, Nancy Ann Gibson, Anna Lambert Lemert.



BO

Members of the 1959 through 1962 pledge classes at the Beta Omicron Chapter of Iowa have held six reunions since 1972. Laughter seems to be the common element of each get-together, which was held in Vail, Colo., this year. Back row: Mary Gullekson, Linda Liddell Moore, Vicki Larson Dow, Lyn Sears Parks, Karen Conkling Stewart; Front row: Sallie Utley Kiest, Judy Dethmer Klepfer, Mary Ellen Erickson Appel, Jan Jones Erickson, Linda Nyquist Shafer.



ΠΙ

1963 graduates from the Gamma Pi Chapter at Iowa State keep in touch through an annual newsletter as well as reunions. Their 1996 reunion was held in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Back row: Nancy Anderson, Ann Marie Abrahamson Conklin, Sue LaBarre Surges, Sandy Bloom Pommerening; Front row: Sharon McIntosh Godbersen, Georgia Hafner Windhorst, Pat Mayer Wright, Marty Amick Lindsey, Jo Power Pattschull.



ΑΞ

Sixteen members of the 1966 graduating class of the Alpha Xi Chapter at Oregon celebrated their reunion in Sisters, Ore. At the end of the weekend, they agreed that their reunion had lived up to the town's name. Back row: Judy Baker Root, Karen Olson Piedmont, Barb Vincent Boyd, Claudia Mills Davis, Margie McBride Lehrman, Lynne Hughes Maloney, Georgia Stout Hodgson, Jeanne Albronda Heaton, Mary Lew Thede, Christi Baldrà Orengo, Holly Green Mason, Pam Bladine; Front row: Barb Scott Miller, Shirley Martin McGrath, Annie Huston Mountjoy, Sandy Elliott Barnett.

Thank you to all who submitted photographs of Theta reunions. We're sorry that we didn't have room to publish them all. We will continue to publish photos of reunions in future issues of *The Magazine*. ■

Miss America Pageant Fulfills Their

Dreams

by Karen Schultz Alter, I/Butler

There she is ... *Miss America!* is a familiar tune to all of us, but it is sung to only one lucky woman each year. Few women wear the Miss America crown, and for those who do, the venerable pageant and other "beauty contests" can be springboards to careers in entertainment or the media. (Broadcast journalist Julie Moran, Gamma Delta/Georgia, for instance, was America's Junior Miss.)

The Miss America Pageant is what many little girls dream about: wearing the crown and walking down the runway.

For three Thetas, being a part of the pageant was a reality in 1996. It had a different meaning for each of them, yet each was pursuing a personal dream as she traveled to Atlantic City for the competition.

"I had been in pageants when I was younger, but I never took them seriously," says Miss Oklahoma Amy Duncan, Alpha Omicron/Oklahoma. "I became interested in the Miss America Pageant because it offers a platform issue. I saw it as another way to get a message out."

Duncan's message is close to the hearts of Thetas—child abuse prevention and education—an issue she's been addressing since age 16. Her decision to join Theta was not linked to CASA, but she believes it wasn't a coincidence.

Unlike Duncan, Miss Virginia Michelle Kang, Beta Lambda/William and Mary, had no prior pageant experience, yet her platform is similar. Kang's platform is Child Abuse Prevention: Investing in America's Future, and she is a trained CASA. "I entered the pageant because of my passion for children," she says.

A top priority for Robyn Hancock, Alpha Tau/Cincinnati, Miss Ohio, is the financial support offered through the pageants. "I entered the pageant for the scholarship money and to pay for my education," she says. Her entire education has been funded through pageant scholarships.

Although scholarship assistance is her principal goal, Hancock also wanted to be one of the contestants she watched on television. "It's even more awesome than I could have imagined, meeting the contestants and making friends who are going through the same experiences that you are—job, career, and important issues."

Making A Difference

Critics have claimed that "beauty pageants" exploit women and do not promote appropriate values and standards. However, the Miss America Organization points out the broader aspects of the pageant, such as scholarship, service, style, and success. Each state winner is committed to a one-year contract to address her platform issue, which is a full-time job.

In fact, when a friend of Michelle Kang's suggested she enter the contest as a way to support her cause for child abuse prevention, Kang laughed. "I saw it as a beauty contest, not a scholarship program." After getting involved, she changed her mind. "It's not about a crown. It's about making a change: making a positive impact on a state or national concern or public issue and realizing the results of those efforts."

Kang's efforts on behalf of abused children began with an internship for a juvenile court judge. "I said to the judge, 'We need more child advocates. There's got to be a way.' The judge replied, 'The only way to help is to change the laws and that means



Robyn Hancock, AT/
Cincinnati, Michelle Kang, BA/
William and Mary, and Amy
Duncan, AO/Oklahoma,
became friends while
competing in the 1996
Miss America Pageant.

running for Congress!”

Congress just may be in Kang's future. She's currently serving as the youngest member on a special governor's task force, The Effects of Violence on Children. As Miss Virginia, she's a public spokesperson and is now working to create several new programs, increase awareness through a public campaign, and bring the message to schools and legislative groups.

Amy Duncan addresses the needs of children 13 to 15 hours a day. The majority of her time is spent traveling to grade, middle, and high schools to make presentations as part of the America Cares for Children program, which is endorsed by the US Department of Education. By the middle of May, she will have visited nearly 300 schools in the state of Oklahoma. Her presentation involves self-esteem, staying off drugs, and the importance of staying in school.

Through her visits to civic groups and other pageants, Duncan promotes CASA as a way to become involved in child abuse prevention. "I never claimed to be able to change the world, but if I could help just one person, that's a terrific feeling. It gives me peace, knowing that all the hard work I've done makes a difference to someone."

Robyn Hancock's platform as Miss Ohio is support for the performing arts. She is currently traveling and speaking throughout the state on motivational topics to elementary and high school students. She is also making several public appearances in parades and other state events.

Theta Friends

The three women met at the pageant and quickly learned that each was a Theta. "We really got along. We hung out

together a lot," says Duncan.

Kang adds, "Our dressing tables were near each other, which was fun."

"I think it's neat that my biggest supporters and fans are my Theta sisters. And now Michelle and Robyn are good friends," Duncan says. "Theta does provide friends for a lifetime and a support system that goes on after college. It's a very strong bond."

Michelle Kang also found support from her Theta sisters, even though many were surprised that she was participating in a pageant. "They couldn't believe that I had entered; it was so uncharacteristic of me. They had Miss America night at the chapter house and sent me letters during rush."

Twelve of Robyn Hancock's Theta sisters came to the pageant in Atlantic City. And her chaperone, Mary Owsley Weitzel, Gamma Upsilon/Miami, is also a Theta. "Before and during the pageant, Mary sent me pansy gifts signed 'Theta love,' which was very special."

What Does the Future Hold?

"I've been exposed to so many new opportunities," Duncan says. "I do plan to get married and attend graduate school in social work and public relations." She wants a career involving children.

Michelle Kang's future includes law school. She says, "Since the Miss American Pageant, I have been exposed to many different possibilities; it's opened many new doors for me."

Robyn Hancock plans to continue her education by seeking another degree, perhaps in the broadcast field. "I'd like to dance for a while and then someday open a studio to teach dance to young children," she says. ■

AN UP-AND-COMING QUEEN

Kelly Lloyd, second runner-up in the Miss Indiana competition this past year, is a member of Nu/Hanover. She recently transferred to Ball State University, where she is a sophomore. As second runner up, she can compete again in any national pageant.

"My interest in pageants came through dancing. I received many brochures for pageants through talent competitions," Lloyd explains. "I tried one and have been competing in pageants since age eight."

Her platform for Miss America is asthmatic awareness, allowing her to work with the American Lung Association of Indiana and asthmatic kids. "I want to be a role model for children," she adds.

Lloyd will enter a few more pageants to obtain additional scholarship support for academic endeavors, which include finishing her degree in telecommunications, and entering graduate school.

Lloyd states, "For women my age, the Miss America Pageant and the Miss USA Pageant provide you the opportunity to work with the community and pursue educational goals. You can't lose. You gain something from any pageant experience."



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